I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Landlord and Tenant

A Bill to amend the Madras Estates Land Act.

*1798 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the stage in which the Bill to amend the Madras Estates Land Act is;

(b) the reason why it has not been introduced in the Council in spite of the express undertaking given by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar on the floor of this House in March 1927; and

(c) when the Government propose to introduce the Bill?

A.—(a) The draft Bill is complete except for two clauses.

(b) Government are not aware of any express undertakings. The Bill has not been introduced because it is not ready. It has not yet been seen or considered by the Government.

(c) As soon as practicable.

Finance

Any Depressed Class member as an Assistant Accountant-General.

*1799 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any Tiyya or Adi-Dravida holding the post of Assistant Accountant-General; if not, why?

A.—The question relates to a Central subject and the Local Government are not in a position to answer it.

Education

Diversion of the Palghat-Kalpathy Road.

*1800 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of a proposal by the Palghat Municipality to divert the Palghat-Kalpathy Road now passing between the Victoria College and its hostel premises through the Cheruma hamlet near the Victoria College;

(b) what steps the Government propose to stop such a diversion; and

(c) whether the Government propose to examine the question before the municipality begins the work?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government are advised that the diversion of the road in question is quite necessary in the interests of the College and that the objections to the acquisition of the private lands required for the realignment of the road should not be allowed to prevail.

28th March 1928]

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" Is the hon the Minister for Local Self-Government aware that the depressed classes were there even before the College came into existence ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan : —" It may be."

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" Is not the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government aware that by this diversion of the road the depressed classes have to go away from the spot bag and baggage and they cannot find a new place anywhere ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I am not aware."

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government see that arrangements are made for them to find a suitable place ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I shall cause an inquiry to be made."

Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" What is proposed to be done with the old road ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I want notice."

Mr. N. Siva Raj :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government see that henceforth at least the depressed classes are not disturbed from their places ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I cannot give any such undertaking."

Local Boards

Levy of fines on bus licensees by the President, Chingleput District Board.

*1801 Q.—Mr. Ramanath Goenka : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President of the Chingleput District Board imposed fines on the bus licensees for alleged breach of motor by-laws such as over-speeding and over-loading ;

(b) what is the amount of fines collected by the President on his own authority since he took charge of the office ;

(c) in how many cases the President has failed to collect the fines after having served notices imposing fines ;

(d) whether the President's action in levying fines on his own authority is beyond his powers and what action the Government proposes to take in the matter ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 486.

(c) Two.

(d) The matter is reported to be sub-judice. The Government are not prepared to express an opinion in the matter.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" If the District Board and the Taluk Board persons are taken free, would the number count for overloading of such passengers ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I want notice."